
Introduced by Senator Huff

February 18, 2016

An act to amend Section 52052 of the Education Code, relating to school accountability.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1156, as introduced, Huff. School accountability: Academic Performance Index.

Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction, with approval of the State Board of Education, to develop an Academic Performance Index, to measure the performance of schools and school districts, especially the academic performance of pupils.

This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to that provision.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 52052 of the Education Code is amended
2 to read:
3 52052. (a) (1) The Superintendent, with the approval of the
4 state board, shall develop an Academic Performance Index (API),
5 to measure the performance of schools and school districts,
6 especially the academic performance of pupils.
7 (2) A school or school district shall demonstrate comparable
8 improvement in academic achievement as measured by the API
9 by all numerically significant pupil subgroups at the school or
10 school district, ~~including:~~ *including all of the following:*
11 (A) Ethnic subgroups.

1 (B) Socioeconomically disadvantaged pupils.

2 (C) English learners.

3 (D) Pupils with disabilities.

4 (E) Foster youth.

5 (F) Homeless youth.

6 (3) (A) For purposes of this section, a numerically significant
7 pupil subgroup is one that consists of at least 30 pupils, each of
8 whom has a valid test score.

9 (B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), for a subgroup of pupils
10 who are foster youth or homeless youth, a numerically significant
11 pupil subgroup is one that consists of at least 15 pupils.

12 (C) For a school or school district with an API score that is
13 based on no fewer than 11 and no more than 99 pupils with valid
14 test scores, numerically significant pupil subgroups shall be defined
15 by the Superintendent, with approval by the state board.

16 (4) (A) The API shall consist of a variety of indicators currently
17 reported to the department, including, but not limited to, the results
18 of the achievement test administered pursuant to Section 60640,
19 attendance rates for pupils in elementary schools, middle schools,
20 and secondary schools, and the graduation rates for pupils in
21 secondary schools.

22 (B) The Superintendent, with the approval of the state board,
23 may also incorporate into the API the rates at which pupils
24 successfully promote from one grade to the next in middle school
25 and high school, and successfully matriculate from middle school
26 to high school.

27 (C) Graduation rates for pupils in secondary schools shall be
28 calculated for the API as follows:

29 (i) Four-year graduation rates shall be calculated by taking the
30 number of pupils who graduated on time for the current school
31 year, which is considered to be three school years after the pupils
32 entered grade 9 for the first time, and dividing that number by the
33 total calculated in clause (ii).

34 (ii) The number of pupils entering grade 9 for the first time in
35 the school year three school years before the current school year,
36 plus the number of pupils who transferred into the class graduating
37 at the end of the current school year between the school year that
38 was three school years before the current school year and the date
39 of graduation, less the number of pupils who transferred out of the
40 school between the school year that was three school years before

1 the current school year and the date of graduation who were
2 members of the class that is graduating at the end of the current
3 school year.

4 (iii) Five-year graduation rates shall be calculated by taking the
5 number of pupils who graduated on time for the current school
6 year, which is considered to be four school years after the pupils
7 entered grade 9 for the first time, and dividing that number by the
8 total calculated in clause (iv).

9 (iv) The number of pupils entering grade 9 for the first time in
10 the school year four years before the current school year, plus the
11 number of pupils who transferred into the class graduating at the
12 end of the current school year between the school year that was
13 four school years before the current school year and the date of
14 graduation, less the number of pupils who transferred out of the
15 school between the school year that was four years before the
16 current school year and the date of graduation who were members
17 of the class that is graduating at the end of the current school year.

18 (v) Six-year graduation rates shall be calculated by taking the
19 number of pupils who graduated on time for the current school
20 year, which is considered to be five school years after the pupils
21 entered grade 9 for the first time, and dividing that number by the
22 total calculated in clause (vi).

23 (vi) The number of pupils entering grade 9 for the first time in
24 the school year five years before the current school year, plus the
25 number of pupils who transferred into the class graduating at the
26 end of the current school year between the school year that was
27 five school years before the current school year and the date of
28 graduation, less the number of pupils who transferred out of the
29 school between the school year that was five years before the
30 current school year and the date of graduation who were members
31 of the class that is graduating at the end of the current school year.

32 (D) The inclusion of five- and six-year graduation rates for
33 pupils in secondary schools shall meet the following requirements:

34 (i) Schools and school districts shall be granted one-half the
35 credit in their API scores for graduating pupils in five years that
36 they are granted for graduating pupils in four years.

37 (ii) Schools and school districts shall be granted one-quarter the
38 credit in their API scores for graduating pupils in six years that
39 they are granted for graduating pupils in four years.

1 (iii) Notwithstanding clauses (i) and (ii), schools and school
2 districts shall be granted full credit in their API scores for
3 graduating in five or six years a pupil with disabilities who
4 graduates in accordance with his or her individualized education
5 program.

6 (E) The pupil data collected for the API that comes from the
7 achievement test administered pursuant to Section 60640 and the
8 high school exit examination administered pursuant to Section
9 60851, when fully implemented, shall be disaggregated by special
10 education status, English learners, socioeconomic status, gender,
11 and ethnic group. Only the test scores of pupils who were counted
12 as part of the enrollment in the annual data collection of the
13 California Basic Educational Data System for the current fiscal
14 year and who were continuously enrolled during that year may be
15 included in the test result reports in the API score of the school.

16 (F) (i) Commencing with the baseline API calculation in 2016,
17 and for each year thereafter, results of the achievement test and
18 other tests specified in subdivision (b) shall constitute no more
19 than 60 percent of the value of the index for secondary schools.

20 (ii) In addition to the elements required by this paragraph, the
21 Superintendent, with the approval of the state board, may
22 incorporate into the index for secondary schools valid, reliable,
23 and stable measures of pupil preparedness for postsecondary
24 education and career.

25 (G) Results of the achievement test and other tests specified in
26 subdivision (b) shall constitute at least 60 percent of the value of
27 the index for primary schools and middle schools.

28 (H) It is the intent of the Legislature that the state's system of
29 public school accountability be more closely aligned with both the
30 public's expectations for public education and the workforce needs
31 of the state's economy. It is therefore necessary that the
32 accountability system evolve beyond its narrow focus on pupil test
33 scores to encompass other valuable information about school
34 performance, including, but not limited to, pupil preparedness for
35 college and career, as well as the high school graduation rates
36 already required by law.

37 (I) The Superintendent shall annually determine the accuracy
38 of the graduation rate data. Notwithstanding any other law,
39 graduation rates for pupils in dropout recovery high schools shall
40 not be included in the API. For purposes of this subparagraph,

1 “dropout recovery high school” means a high school in which 50
2 percent or more of its pupils have been designated as dropouts
3 pursuant to the exit/withdrawal codes developed by the department
4 or left a school and were not otherwise enrolled in a school for a
5 period of at least 180 days.

6 (J) To complement the API, the Superintendent, with the
7 approval of the state board, may develop and implement a program
8 of school quality review that features locally convened panels to
9 visit schools, observe teachers, interview pupils, and examine pupil
10 work, if an appropriation for this purpose is made in the annual
11 Budget Act.

12 (K) The Superintendent shall annually provide to local
13 educational agencies and the public a transparent and
14 understandable explanation of the individual components of the
15 API and their relative values within the API.

16 (L) An additional element chosen by the Superintendent and
17 the state board for inclusion in the API pursuant to this paragraph
18 shall not be incorporated into the API until at least one full school
19 year after the state board’s decision to include the element into the
20 API.

21 (b) Pupil scores from the following tests, when available and
22 when found to be valid and reliable for this purpose, shall be
23 incorporated into the API:

24 (1) The standards-based achievement tests provided for in
25 Section 60642.5.

26 (2) The high school exit examination.

27 (c) Based on the API, the Superintendent shall develop, and the
28 state board shall adopt, expected annual percentage growth targets
29 for all schools based on their API baseline score from the previous
30 year. Schools are expected to meet these growth targets through
31 effective allocation of available resources. For schools below the
32 statewide API performance target adopted by the state board
33 pursuant to subdivision (d), the minimum annual percentage growth
34 target shall be 5 percent of the difference between the actual API
35 score of a school and the statewide API performance target, or one
36 API point, whichever is greater. Schools at or above the statewide
37 API performance target shall have, as their growth target,
38 maintenance of their API score above the statewide API
39 performance target. However, the state board may set differential
40 growth targets based on grade level of instruction and may set

1 higher growth targets for the lowest performing schools because
2 they have the greatest room for improvement. To meet its growth
3 target, a school shall demonstrate that the annual growth in its API
4 is equal to or more than its schoolwide annual percentage growth
5 target and that all numerically significant pupil subgroups, as
6 defined in subdivision (a), are making comparable improvement.

7 (d) Upon adoption of state performance standards by the state
8 board, the Superintendent shall recommend, and the state board
9 shall adopt, a statewide API performance target that includes
10 consideration of performance standards and represents the
11 proficiency level required to meet the state performance target.

12 (e) (1) A school or school district with 11 to 99 pupils with
13 valid test scores shall receive an API score with an asterisk that
14 indicates less statistical certainty than API scores based on 100 or
15 more test scores.

16 (2) A school or school district annually shall receive an API
17 score, unless the Superintendent determines that an API score
18 would be an invalid measure of the performance of the school or
19 school district for one or more of the following reasons:

20 (A) Irregularities in testing procedures occurred.

21 (B) The data used to calculate the API score of the school or
22 school district are not representative of the pupil population at the
23 school or school district.

24 (C) Significant demographic changes in the pupil population
25 render year-to-year comparisons of pupil performance invalid.

26 (D) The department discovers or receives information indicating
27 that the integrity of the API score has been compromised.

28 (E) Insufficient pupil participation in the assessments included
29 in the API.

30 (F) A transition to new standards-based assessments
31 compromises comparability of results across schools or school
32 districts. The Superintendent may use the authority in this
33 subparagraph in the 2013–14 and 2014–15 school years only, with
34 the approval of the state board.

35 (3) If a school or school district has fewer than 100 pupils with
36 valid test scores, the calculation of the API or adequate yearly
37 progress pursuant to the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001
38 (20 U.S.C. Sec. 6301 et seq.) and federal regulations may be
39 calculated over more than one annual administration of the tests
40 administered pursuant to Section 60640 and the high school exit

1 examination administered pursuant to Section 60851, consistent
2 with regulations adopted by the state board.

3 (4) Any school or school district that does not receive an API
4 calculated pursuant to subparagraph (F) of paragraph (2) shall not
5 receive an API growth target pursuant to subdivision (c). Schools
6 and school districts that do not have an API calculated pursuant
7 to subparagraph (F) of paragraph (2) shall use one of the following:

8 (A) The most recent API calculation.

9 (B) An average of the three most recent annual API calculations.

10 (C) Alternative measures that show increases in pupil academic
11 achievement for all groups of pupils schoolwide and among
12 significant subgroups.

13 (f) Only schools with 100 or more test scores contributing to
14 the API may be included in the API rankings.

15 (g) The Superintendent, with the approval of the state board,
16 shall develop an alternative accountability system for schools under
17 the jurisdiction of a county board of education or a county
18 superintendent of schools, community day schools, nonpublic,
19 nonsectarian schools pursuant to Section 56366, and alternative
20 schools serving high-risk pupils, including continuation high
21 schools and opportunity schools. Schools in the alternative
22 accountability system may receive an API score, but shall not be
23 included in the API rankings.

24 (h) For purposes of this section, county offices of education
25 shall be considered school districts.

26 (i) For purposes of this section, “homeless youth” has the same
27 meaning as in Section 11434a(2) of Title 42 of the United States
28 Code.